



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Buffalo Office
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Buffalo, New York 14203-1780
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COUNTY EXECUTIVES
OFFICE

Mr. Joel A. Giambra
Erie County Executive
Edward A. Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202-3973

Dear Mr. Giambra:

SUBJECT: Annual Community Assessment/2005 Program Year Review Letter; Community Development Block Grant Program (B-05-UC-36-0001), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (M05-DC360507) and Emergency Shelter Grant Program (S-05-UC-36-0011); Erie County, New York

The provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and Title 1 of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 require that HUD review the performance of each grant recipient, to determine whether it is in compliance with the statutes and whether it has the continuing capacity to implement and administer the programs for which assistance is received.

This letter is to inform you of the results of our assessment of performance under the County's previously approved Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan for the 2005 Program Year, as outlined below. HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is required to review performance by our grant partners under various community development programs. While our assessment primarily focused on your 2005 program (April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006), as reported in the County's 2005 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) and IDIS-generated reports, we have also considered other efforts, as well.

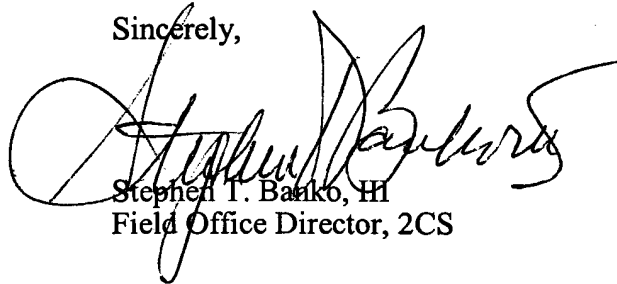
Our review disclosed that Erie County made good progress implementing the activities it committed to in its 2005 Annual Action Plan. In addition, all of the activities completed during 2005 were consistent with the County's Consolidated Plan priorities.

The OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States and Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations requires submission of the County's Single Audit Report within nine months of the end of the County's fiscal year. This means that the audit for the period ending December 31, 2005 will be due on September 30, 2006. The most recently submitted audit did not identify any deficiencies impacting on the management of your HUD programs. As a result, we have no recommendations at this time for areas in which the Independent Public Accountant(s) should concentrate his review.

It is our intention that this assessment, in addition to meeting the mandates of the statutes, will also provide a basis for working together collaboratively to achieve your housing and community development goals. This letter should be made available to the public within 30 days of receipt. You can assist us in this regard by sharing it via your established citizen participation process.

We congratulate Erie County for successfully implementing your overall five-year Consolidated Plan Program and the 2005 Annual Action Plan in a timely and professional manner. In conclusion, based on program information currently available to our Office, our analysis has confirmed that your overall performance is satisfactory. We congratulate you on the County's record, and look forward to working with the County in the upcoming year. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Alex Vilardo, Community Planning and Development Representative, on 716-551-5755, extension 5831.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen T. Banko, III". The signature is written over the printed name and title.

Stephen T. Banko, III
Field Office Director, 2CS